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NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Paul J. McNulty, United States Attorney for the Eastern District of Virginia, announced that Lamont Isaac Christian, age 25, a Newport News resident, was indicted today by a federal grand jury sitting in Newport News. The indictment charges Christian with conspiracy related to identification documents; identity theft; conspiracy to unlawfully use social security numbers; unlawful use of social security numbers; and mail fraud. If convicted, Christian faces a maximum prison term of 60 years, a fine of \$250,000 per count, and full restitution.

From April 2001 through August 2001 Christian and other conspirators obtained false military identifications containing the names and personal identifying information belonging to actual active duty military members but bearing the pictures of Christian and other conspirators. Christian and his conspirators also obtained an Alpha Roster containing the names of thousands of military members and their personal information including: name, rank, social security number, date of birth and address. This roster has not been recovered. Christian and the conspirators used the false military identifications to fraudulently obtain and attempt to obtain lines of credit for monies, goods, and services from various business establishments, including Car Smart, Kay Jewelers, J. C. Penney, J. B. Robinson Jewelers and other businesses in the names of the military members.

The investigation was conducted by the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Newport News Police Department. Assistant United States Attorneys Howard J. Zlotnick is prosecuting the case for the United States.

(A defendant is presumed innocent until proven guilty).

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